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COUNTRY Romania REPORT NO 25X1

TOPIC Romanian Artillery Units in Turnu Severin and Craiova

EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT Up to 4 April 1950 25X1

DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 23 May 1950

REFERENCES

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) 25X1A

REMARKS

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The following information on the Rumanian 8th Mtz Arty Regt in Turnu Severin (R 23/24 / E 98) and the 9th Arty Regt in Craiova (R 33/34/A 83) up to 4 April 1950 was obtained:

1. 8th Mtz Arty Regt.

a. Quarters:

Barracks of the former 37th Arty Regt, east of the airfield. (1) The barracks consist of a two-story headquarters building, seven quartering buildings (three of which were damaged by air raids), one large mess building and various other buildings such as stables, gun sheds, garages etc.

b. Organization and armament. (2)

(1) Two battalions, each equipped with twelve 105-mm Schneider guns.

(2) One battalion equipped with 150-mm Skoda guns, consisting of three batteries of two platoons each.

(3) One AAA platoon with 20-mm Oerlikon guns belonged to each battalion.

c. Ammunition depot.

Together with a border guard regiment (3), the artillery regiment had its ammunition depot south of Ialanga (R 23/24 / A 08) where the target range of the artillery regiment was also located.

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This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

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2. 9th Arty Regt (4)

a. [REDACTED]

b. CO: Lieutenant Colonel Mariotti (5)

Lieutenant Colonel Marasescu and about 250 soldiers had been transferred to Buzau (R 45/Y 31) for the activation of an 18th Arty Regt. (6)

c. Organization and equipment:

(1) Three battalions, each equipped with twelve 100-mm Skoda guns. (7)

One AAA platoon with three 20-mm Oerlikon guns belonged to each battalion.

(2) One cadre battalion without guns.

d. The following guns, at the disposal of the 2d Inf Div, were parked in the 9th Arty Regt's barracks yard:

About twenty-five Rumanian 75-mm Nestorescu AT guns and about twenty Soviet AT guns.

[REDACTED] Comment:

The report was supplied [REDACTED] who has recently often furnished information on that area, some of which was not true. However, although there are no means to verify the present information, it appears credible.

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(1) The 8th Mtz Arty Regt has been repeatedly confirmed in Turnu Severin since 1948.

(2) The former Rumanian Army had been equipped with long-barreled 105-mm Schneider-Creuzot guns and motorized heavy 150-mm Skoda howitzers, model M 34. It is considered possible that these weapons may still be used in the Rumanian Army; this assumption is borne out to a certain extent by a report of August 1949 stating that a number of guns, including 105-mm Schneider guns, were dispatched from Sibiu to Turnu Severin.

(3) Elements of a border guard regiment were repeatedly reported to be in Turnu Severin. The information on the regiment's designation is contradictory however.

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(4) The 9th Arty Regt has been repeatedly identified in Craiova since late 1948, but it was not until recently that the regiment was confirmed as being subordinate to the 2d Inf Div.

(5) Lieutenant Colonel Marian was CO according to a February 1950 [REDACTED] Marian and Mariotti are probably different versions of the same name.

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(6) Marasescu was previously known as Dpty CO of the 9th Arty Regt. It is considered possible that he was transferred to an artillery regiment that is being activated. However, the numerical designation 18 of the new artillery regiment is doubted because an 18th Arty Regt is already known as a component unit of the 9th Inf Div.

(7) Probably light 100-mm Skoda howitzers, models M 14, M 30 and M 34, which were used in the former Rumanian Army. The information on the armament of the 8th Mtz Arty Regt and the 9th Arty Regt indicates that some elements of the Rumanian artillery have not yet been equipped with new Soviet weapons.

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